

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

INR-07 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07

DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 COME-00 /101 W

-----102732 052237Z /73

R 050509Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1055

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

ERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

ERDA HQ WASHINGTON

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5512

USOECDD

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, TECH, AS, JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S VIEWS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

1. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA, MR. OKAWARA, IN AUGUST 3 ADDRESS TO NATIONAL PRESS CLUB IN CANBERRA, STATED JAPAN "PROFOUNDLY" HOPED AUSTRALIA WOULD DECIDE TO MINE AND EXPORT URANIUM. HE SAID JAPAN WOULD BE PERFECTLY HAPPY TO RELY ON AUSTRALIA FOR ITS URANIUM SUPPLY.

2. OKAWARA REAFFIRMED JAPAN'S DESIRE TO PROCEED WITH DEVELOPMENT OF REPROCESSING AND FAST BREEDER TECHNOLOGY, AND PURSUE ITS RESEARCH ON HOW A PLUTONIUM ECONOMY CAN BE DEVELOPED WITH MAXIMUM SAFETY. HE STRESSED JAPAN WAS PROCEEDING WITH "EXPERIMENTAL" WORK ON URANIUM
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REPROCESSING. OKAWARA QUESTIONED WHETHER A BAN ON REPROCESSING IS THE BEST MEASURE TO GUARD AGAINST THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. JAPAN, ACCORDING TO OKAWARA, WAS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS RELATIVE TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION PROJECT PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT CARTER.

ONCE AN INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS EMERGED FROM THE DISCUSSIONS, JAPAN WOULD HONOR THE OUTCOME. BUT UNTIL AN INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS IS ACHIEVED, JAPAN WANTS TO CONTINUE ITS RESEARCH INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLUTONIUM ECONOMY IN ORDER TO PROTECT ITSELF AGAINST FUTURE FUEL SHORTAGES.

4. OKAWARA STATED JAPAN HOPED ANY AUSTRALIAN DECISION ON EXPORT OF URANIUM WOULD NOT BE CONTINGENT UPON A TOTAL BAN ON REPROCESSING IN JAPAN.
ALSTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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